

Elk Point REVIEW

Bringing You the News since 1984

Tuesday, July 28, 2009

Vol. 29 No. 30 • \$1 (GST incl.)

PM40069240 R10645

Mystery solved
At Elk Point Library

Page 3

Early deadline

Due to the Monday, Aug. 3 Heritage Day holiday, deadline for the Aug. 4 issue will be at 4 p.m. Wednesday, July 29. Enjoy the holiday!



Gardeners on tour
...Page 8

Sox win midget provincial gold



By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

There is indeed gold in them thar foothills, and some of this area's top athletes just discovered the mother lode.

Elk Point Sox came home from Baseball Alberta's Tier II Midget Provincials in Rocky Mountain House with the gold medals, after doubling the previously undefeated Sherwood Park Midget 10-5 in an exciting final Sunday evening.

It was an all-win weekend for the Sox, and manager Doug Bassett says, "Our bats were unbelievable. The mojo was going, and it was a great weekend."

The Sox played their first game of the weekend Friday night against very familiar competitors from Cold Lake, and added a 24-8 thumping to their five previous wins in six encounters earlier in the season.

Their second game was Saturday night against Stony Plain, and the hot bats of the Sox quickly racked up a 19-1 win to complete the round robin.

A 7-2 semi-final win over the host team from Rocky Mountain House at noon on Sunday sent the Sox to the final, and the rest is history.

Sox player Evan "Ernie" Joly was named the tournament's MVP.

Watch next week's issue for further details from the Provincials weekend.

Elk Point Sox proudly displayed their Tier II Midget Provincial championship medals after their win Sunday night in Rocky Mountain House. Back row, left to right, are manager Doug Bassett, Evan Joly, Jordan Croteau, Brett Romanovich, Matthew Church, Mike Desjarlais, Curtis Nicholson, Dustin Berg, Dylan Berg, assistant coach Lorn Berg; front, left to right: coach Remi Joly, Kyle Corbeil, Zach Ward, Jordan Darr, Tanner Corbeil, Cy Romanovich and bat boy Adam Joly. Missing: assistant coach Dwayne Romanovich.

Recycling high on town council agenda

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Elk Point town council received new information on recycling in the report submitted by economic development coordinator Bob Bezpalko at their July 13 meeting. Bezpalko has contacted Allied Paper Savers in Edmonton, who take recycled material and would rent the town a bin for \$100 per month. The firm takes both paper and cardboard either loose or compacted. Trucking the collected material to Edmonton is estimated at \$250. Elk Point Co-op handles their own cardboard and does have a baler.

A feasibility study regarding setting up a recycling depot in the old fire hall was suggested.

Bezpalko will continue his research on recycling possibilities.

The north entrance sign will cost close to \$20,500 when all the rockwork and solar-powered lighting is completed, an amount Mayor Parrish Tung says is within the project's budget. Bezpalko hopes to have the business park sign up in the next few weeks, and other signage at the north end of town is to be reviewed.

Drainage costs

Council agreed to submit estimates of the costs for drainage on the adjoining lot to Truck-In 2000 owner Dwayne Vogel.

Master agreement

Council gave approval to the revised Northern Lights Library System Master Agreement.

FCSS relocation

The FCSS office relocation to the EcoCentre, when it is

ready for occupancy, received council's approval. The rent for that site will be the same as is paid for the current location.

Provincials only

Elk Point Minor Ball will not receive the town's assistance in funding a recent tournament, because the hosting fund was established only to assist in hosting provincial championships.

Information Night

The Town of Elk Point will be setting up a display at the annual FCSS Information Night on Sept. 8 in the Elks Hall.

On parade

Elk Point will be represented in the St. Paul rodeo parade on Sept. 5, with council agreeing to send the town's float to participate.

(Continued on Page 2)

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Council notes

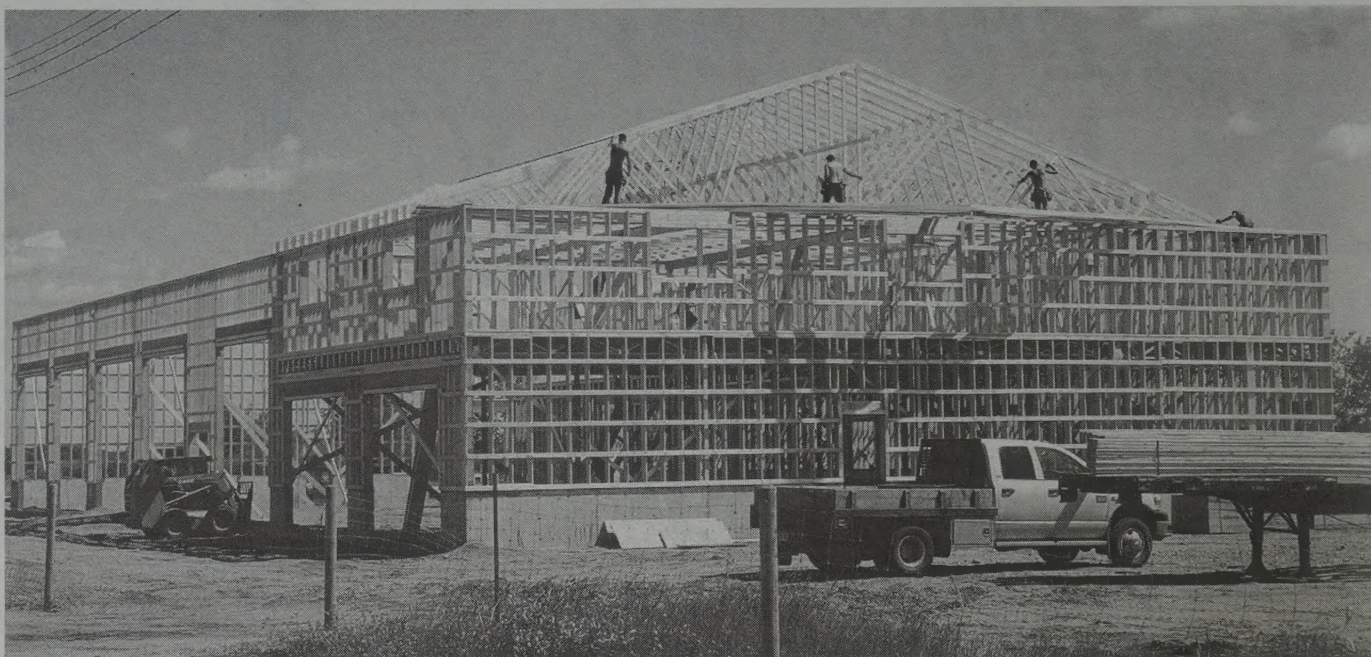
(Continued from Front Page)

Hay crop

The hay crop on town property west of the Peter Fidler statue will be sold to Jamie Zacharuk for \$1 per small square bale.

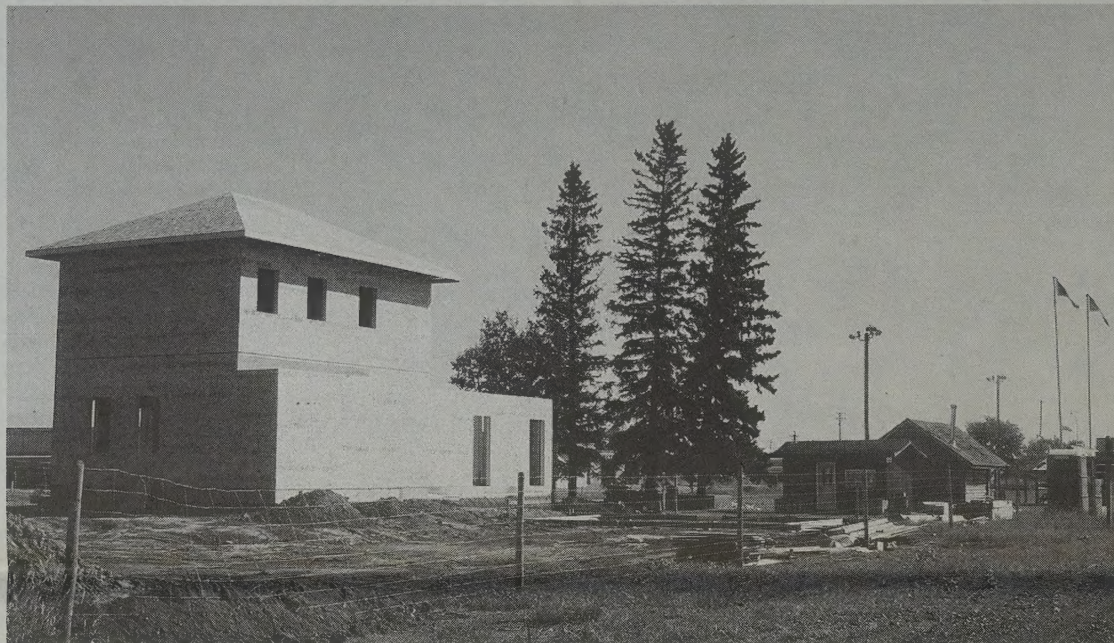
Animal Control

Elk Point has been without an animal control bylaw officer for several months, although a number of animal-related complaints have been made to town office. Council agreed at the July 13 meeting to enter into a contract with Ron Lesyk to provide municipal bylaw animal control service.



Railway Avenue skyline on the rise

A long-vacant slice of land along Elk Point's south perimeter has developed a growing skyline in recent weeks. The new fire hall (above), jointly funded by the County of St. Paul and the Town of Elk Point, now dominates the western end of the strip, while the train-station-design Elk Point Tourism and EcoCentre at the end of Main Street (left) dwarfs the current tourist information centre to its immediate east. The centre will not only serve tourists arriving by both Highway 41 and the Iron Horse Trail, but when completed, will offer educational displays on solar and wind power for youth and adults alike.



Chamber meets tomorrow

Elk Point Chamber of Commerce is in vacation mode, and has cut back their usual twice-monthly meetings to one per month for July and August.

The August meeting will go this Wednesday, Aug. 5 at 6 p.m. at the Empress.

The quickly-growing eco centre will be at the top of the agenda.

RCMP report three rollovers in one week between July 14 and 21

BY CST. JOHN SPAANS

Elk Point RCMP

Elk Point RCMP attended three motor vehicle rollovers during the week. The first came on July 16 at 8 a.m. The vehicle was traveling southbound on Hwy. 887 in Frog Lake at a very high rate of speed. The vehicle veered into

the west ditch and struck an approach. Upon hitting the approach, the vehicle was launched into the air and rolled further into the ditch. Both of the occupants were youths and were able to exit the vehicle. Elk Point Fire Department and EMS attended the location and treated the two occupants. The male driver suffered serious but non-life-threatening injuries. The RCMP Collision Analyst attended the location to assist with the investigation. Elk Point RCMP continue to investigate this matter.

On July 17 at 9 p.m., Elk Point RCMP and Bonnyville EMS responded to a single vehicle rollover on Riel Beach Road north of Fishing Lake. The vehicle lost control after veering onto the shoulder and over-correcting. The vehicle rolled once into the south ditch. The male driver suffered non-life-threatening injuries and was transported to the

Bonnyville Hospital. Investigation determined that the male was not wearing his seatbelt at the time of the collision and that alcohol was a factor. The 50-year-old Fishing Lake resident has been charged with impaired driving and failing to provide samples of blood.

On July 20, Elk Point RCMP responded to a single vehicle rollover on Spring Park Road. Upon arrival of the RCMP, the vehicle was empty and no one was left on scene. The SUV apparently lost control on the gravel surface while negotiating a bend in the roadway. The vehicle rolled in the middle of the road and came to rest on its side. Investigation is ongoing but it is believed that the vehicle was stolen from Elk Point a short time prior to the collision.

Search Warrant

On July 15, Elk Point RCMP executed a search warrant on a house in Fishing Lake. The search resulted in the seizure of a long barrel firearm and an amount of marijuana. Investigation into the matter is ongoing and charges against a Fishing Lake individual are being considered.

Drinking at the School

On July 18 at 3 a.m., Cst. Leger was notified of people drinking on the roof of the Elementary School in Elk Point. Members surrounded the school and Cst. Leger climbed onto the roof. Two young adult males were located sitting on the roof of the school drinking alcohol. The males were brought off the roof and charged with trespassing and consuming liquor in public. Each of the males was subject to \$390 worth of violation tickets.

Elk Point RCMP take a zero tolerance stance when it comes to any alcohol-related and trespassing violations at the local schools.

Break and Enter

On July 19, Elk Point RCMP responded to a residential break and enter in Frog Lake. The complaint was received approximately two hours after the occurrence. Investigation found that an unknown number of video games, DVDs and game consoles were taken. Of greater concern, a shotgun was stolen from the residence. Suspects have been identified in this matter and investigation is ongoing.

NEW HOURS OF OPERATION:
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Saturday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
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Vicki Brooker photo

A young volunteer worked with magician and Summer Reading Program entertainer Brian Lehr to turn fabric scraps into a flag in Lehr's magic bag, although there were a few glitches along the way.

Kids help find clues in library mystery

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

The Elk Point Municipal Library's Summer Reading Program gang and their friends had a mystery on their hands last Tuesday, but magician and children's entertainer Brian Lehr, alias Dr. Iwannano, was there to help. After reading the magic rules, telling the audience when to clap, laugh and say the magic word, he told his fellow "clue catchers" that, "the mother of all diamonds is missing. It's the Case of the Missing Mom."

To solve the mystery, they would have to follow clues, but alas! The clue box was empty, and they would have to do some magic to get the clues. Lehr doodled on his magic drawing board, creating a picture that talked and sang, and resulted in the arrival of the first clue, "character," and the first clue word, "the."

Kassandra, the afternoon's first volunteer clue-catcher, was called up out of the audience and turned into a spy, complete with super-sleuth cape, hat and disguise, and assisted Lehr in a card trick where he found the card she had signed by "sleight of mouth," which brought a few "ewwws" from the audience and his assistant. Clues two and three, "responsibility" and "caring", brought with them clue words "is" and

"diamond."

The second clue-catcher was asked to assist with Lehr's newest invention, a flag-making bag that reportedly turned two pieces of cloth into a Canadian flag – and it did, after a few glitches that included a multiplying magic wand and one reverse-colored flag. That brought two more clues, "fairness" and "citizenship", and the clue words "of" and "mother."

The afternoon's final clue-catching assistant found herself floating in the air after the whole crowd joined in the magic incantation, "Abracadabra!" This final trick brought the clue, trustworthy, and the final clue word, "coal." The group then shouted out suggestions for rearranging the six clue words until finally, they made a sensible sentence: "Coal is the mother of diamond," thus solving the mystery.

After telling a story about coal turning to diamonds, Lehr recruited a father from the audience to assist with a famous magic trick developed by Harry Houdini. The assistant strapped him into a straitjacket and started the music for the Beatles' song, "Twist and Shout," with Lehr finally extricating himself just as the final notes played, in a thoroughly entertaining conclusion to a fun and informative afternoon, sponsored by the Northern Lights Library System.

Provincial silver

The Lloydminster Pee wee B. Rebels Fastball team won silver at Provincials at St. Albert on July 10 to 12. The team went 4 and 0 in the round robin and won the semi final game against St. Albert peewees 13 to 6. Then lost to Medicine Hat Shock in the final game 4-2 in a very exciting game. Taylor Cochrane from Elk Point and Emma Jackson from St. Paul played on the team.

Wanda Cochrane photo



Time is running out!

By JENNIFER VAN DER HOEK

Elk Point Agricultural Society Fair Board

The Elk Point and District Agricultural Society's 2009 Horticulture and Craft Show and Quilt Exhibition is only a few weeks away. Exhibits will be taken on Saturday, Aug. 8 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Public viewing will be on Sunday, Aug. 9 from 1 to 4 p.m., followed by the awards ceremony.

If you haven't done so already, head down to the Elk Point Review or RONA in Elk Point to pick up this year's fair book and some tags. We have new tags this year, but if you have old ones around, you may use them also. Every person entering must have a separate entry form listing everything they are entering, and every item must be tagged properly. A nominal entry fee per person allows that person to enter as many items as they wish (maximum of one item per person per category). With hundreds of categories, there is huge potential to win money and prizes.

So, start printing your photos and mounting them on neutral backgrounds, gather up your sewing, knitting and other craft projects, water your veggies, flowers and plants, and start writing out your entry form and fair tags. To save time, you can use address labels to put your name and address on your tags.

And don't forget: if you have a quilt or vintage kitchen linens that you would like to display in the Quilt Show, contact Verona Lea Flanders at 780-724-2269. Remember that Quilt Show items are display only and are not judged, so don't be shy about contributing your handiwork or the work

of others to the display.

See you at the fair on Aug. 8 and 9!

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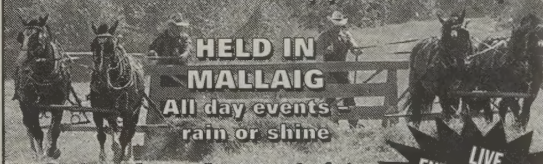


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EDITORIAL

How about those Sox?

We may not have hosted the Tier II Midget Provincials this year, but that obviously gave the team, its management and the parents the opportunity to concentrate on baseball, itself, rather than on the 1,001 details that go into being a host community.

All that concentration on the game paid off big time, with a championship win at what Sox manager and Review sports reporter Doug Bassett calls "the big show" in Rocky Mountain House.

The Sox had some huge wins in their pool round robin and a more even game but a significant victory in the semi final before the tournament's two undefeated teams went head to head in the final and the Sox put forth their gold medal efforts.

Elk Point and St. Paul have added together their best talent to make this possible, and the sum of these talents is obviously the best in the province.

It doesn't get any better than that. Congratulations!

Way Back When...

Rendezvous, story vine, Riel Beach

HERE'S THE NEWS THAT MADE THE HEADLINES OF THE LAKELAND REVIEW AND ELK POINT REVIEW FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 28 IN...

1984

Elk Point Agricultural Society hosted their fifth annual Rendezvous Days Rodeo at Whitney Lake, where Derek Hehr of St. Paul won the Bareback Bronc Riding and hometown cowgirl Wendy Lorensen won the Junior Barrel Racing. The entire County of St. Paul council visited their Town of Elk Point counterparts to discuss matters of mutual concern, including fire protection, landfill sites and the municipal airport.

1989

Whitney Lake's new rodeo and fairgrounds was christened in fine style, with excellent crowds on hand for the rodeo hosted by the Heinsburg 4-H Multi Club. Elk Point Municipal Hospital Board met with a lawyer and a consultant from the Alberta Hospital Association to review and discuss a code of ethics recently developed by the board, but with which not all board members agreed.

1994

Amoco Canada announced tentative plans to amalgamate their two treatment plants, closing the plant on Hwy. 640 and directing all of its heavy crude oil to a larger plant two miles north. Town council gave all three readings to an Untidy and Unsightly Premises bylaw that speeded up the process to be followed if residents or property owners do not take care of their yards or places of business.

1999

Acme Red Sox were crowned Alberta's best as the White Sox hosted the Midget 'A' fastball provincials. Author and storyteller Richard Thompson was a big hit with the youngsters at Elk Point Library where he used a story vine, a sandbox and drawings to illustrate his tales of adventure.

2004

Phil Sheplaw threw the ceremonial first pitch as Elk Point Sox hosted Alberta's top Midget A teams at provincials, with excitement going all the way to the end of the final contest where Innisfail Indians defeated Cold Lake Cardinals. Old traditions such as smoking fish over smoldering willow wood, baking bannock on sticks over an open fire and taking a ride in a creaking Red River cart were brought to life at Potta Trail Days at Fishing Lake Settlement's Riel Beach Campground.



GUEST COLUMN

July is almost over

Yes, the month of July is almost over for another year. Actually, July 28 is the 209th day of the year in the Gregorian calendar. There are 156 days remaining until the end of the year. So 2009, as a year, is more than half over.

July is the seventh month of the year in the Gregorian calendar, with 31 days. The seventh month of the year was named by Mark Antony for Julius Caesar. The Roman calendar had previously called it Quintilis, as it was the fifth month of their year. The Dutch called this month Hooy-maand ('hay-month'), and the old Saxon name was Maedd-monath (because the cattle were sent to the meadows to feed) and Lida aeftvev (the second mild or genial month). Just to confuse things, the Saxons also called this time of year Hen-monath (probably 'foliage month'), a word most likely derived from the German hain, meaning 'wood' or 'trees'. Another Saxon term was Hey-monath because at this time they mowed and made hay.

Sara Coleridge was the daughter of the poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge. She wrote mainly children's poetry, which was published and popular in her lifetime. Her poem, "The Months" is a nice catalogue of the months of the year.

*January brings the snow;
Makes our feet and fingers glow.
February brings the rain;
Thaws the frozen pond again.
March brings the wind so cold and chill;
Drives the cattle from the hill.
April brings us sun and showers,*

The Elk Point Review publishes a variety of opinions as a contribution to debate on matters of public concern. Unsigned editorials express the view of this newspaper's editorial board which includes the Publisher and the Editor. Signed pieces express the view of the individual writer.

*And the pretty wildwood flowers.
May brings grass and leafy trees,*

*Waving in each gentle breeze.
June brings roses, fresh and fair,
And the cherries ripe and rare.
July brings the greatest heat,
Cloudless skies and dusty street.
August brings the golden grain;
Harvest time is here again.
Mild September brings us more
Fruit and grain, for winter store.
Brown October brings the last*

*Of ripening gifts, from summer past.
Dull November brings the blast;
Down from the trees the leaves fall fast.
Cold December ends the rhyme
With blazing fires and Christmas time.*

There are some important events that happened on this day. In 2005, on July 28, the Provisional Irish Republican Army called an end to their thirty year long armed campaign in Northern Ireland. In a long-awaited statement, the republican organization said it would follow a democratic path ending more than 30 years of violence. The Provisional IRA's campaign of violence was aimed at forcing an end to the British presence in Northern Ireland, leading to a united Ireland.

In Canada, the one event we still remember is the birth of Terry Fox who was born on July 28, 1958 in Winnipeg. Terry lost a leg to bone cancer in 1977 and started his cross-Canada "Marathon of Hope" in St. John's on April 12, 1980 to raise money to fight the disease. Before he had to end the marathon Sept. 1 in Thunder Bay, when cancer was discovered in his lungs, he had run almost 5400 km. and raised over \$1.7 million. He gave up his fight on June 28, 1981 in New Westminster, BC but thousands of Canadians run every year in his memory.

Yes, July is almost over. Whether you are noting the history of the name of the month, the heat of month, the mowing of hay in the month, events of history of the month or the memory of people born on this day in the month, July is almost over. Yeah!

deanna
EASTHOPE
from the FCSS desk



ELK POINT REVIEW

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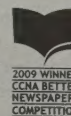


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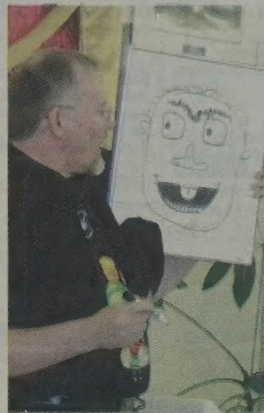
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One magical afternoon

A blazing book, a young lady floating in midair, a talking drawing board and a marked card somehow turning up in the magician's mouth were all part of Elk Point Municipal Library's magical afternoon last week when entertainer Brian Lehr came to visit the 2009 Summer Reading Program participants and their friends.

Vicki Brooker photos



Teen Summer Reading Club is back!

By NICOLE LABRIE
Elk Point Municipal Library

Hey, teens, looking for a good read? Why not hit up the Teen Summer Reading Club website? With numerous book lists and book reviews written by teens across the country, there is a book for everyone. Not sure what suits your fancy? Join in the forums and chats. Best of all, if you sign up for the program, you could win some sweet prizes. All you have to do is login and review a couple of books and your name goes in the draw.

But you do not need to be a member to enjoy the real benefits of this program. Simply visit the website and click on the links at the top of the screen. By clicking Book Lists, you can search different categories - from Goth Lit to Sports, there are many choices - or by author if you are look-

ing for something specific. Then at the bottom of the screen, a long list will pop up. Nearly all of the books on the site are reviewed so you can see what other people thought of the book, the reviews are helpful and it is good to get opinions from kids just like you.

For all you potential writers out there, the Teen SRC even has a link called Publish Your Writing. You need to login to access the full benefits of this feature but it seems like a fairly easy process.

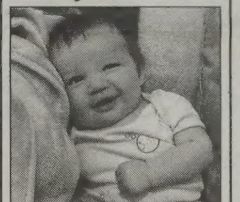
So, if you're just simply looking for a new book to read, want to get your own works out there, or want to talk to teens across the country about all things books (and all things in general), check out the Teen Summer Reading Club. Come into the library or call us for more information or if you have any questions.

BIRTH

Matthew Waskahat and Nicole Scott

are proud to announce the arrival of their handsome son

Tyler Eugene Henry Waskahat



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130. Coming Events

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190. Announcements

ALBERTA ENVIRONMENT develops ambient air quality objectives and guidelines under the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act. Public consultation is a part of the process. In 2000 and 2004, Albertans were asked to identify and nominate pollutants that affect air quality. Alberta Environment is now considering further contaminants for the objective setting process. Add your voice to the process by nominating air pollutants that concern you the most and why they concern you. Your nomination will be considered by a multi-stakeholder committee with representatives from non-government organizations, industry and government who will recommend the next set of substances for new or updated ambient air quality objectives to Alberta Environment. To nominate a substance or to request more information please visit the Clean Air Strategic Alliance website at www.casahome.org. Send an email to: nominations@casahome.org or call 780-427-9793. Deadline for nominations in Sept. 25, 2009.

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3010. Auctions

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MEIER 2-DAY Classic Car & Truck Auction, Saturday and Sunday, September 19 & 20, 11 A.M. Both days 6016 - 72A Avenue, Edmonton. Over 150 Classics. To consign, call 780-440-1860.

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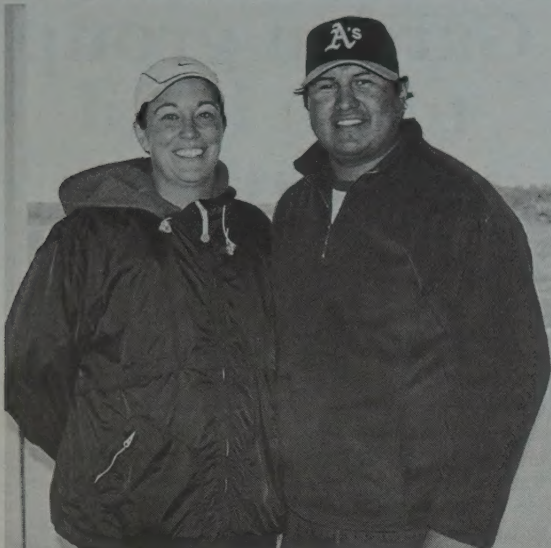
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Slo Pitch league 2009 champs

Dennell Anderson and Myles Quinney won the Home Run Derby on Saturday afternoon.

Photos submitted



Elk Point Slo Pitch held their 2009 league finals on July 17-19. Winners of the A side were ACT 1, who played a close game against the Red Dogs.

Collisions claim lives of four Kehewin residents, Two Hills man

By Staff Writers

As of July 24, Alberta RCMP had responded to a number of collisions resulting in an astonishing 13 deaths within three days alone. Throughout the month of July, RCMP have responded to collisions involving 28 fatalities across the province.

Four people are dead following a collision that occurred last week, in Kehewin.

On July 23, at about 11:45 p.m. Bonnyville RCMP responded to a two vehicle collision, on Hwy 657, one kilometre east of the Kehewin Cree Nations town site, according to an RCMP press release.

All four occupants of one of the vehicles were killed in the collision. Victims include Alexis Gadwa, 15; Sarah Gadwa, 14; their mother, Frances (Stella) Gadwa, 35; and Ivan Paul, 51.

A 42-year-old Bonnyville resident, the only occupant of the second vehicle was taken to Bonnyville hospital. He was transferred to Edmonton for further treatment.

"Investigators believe drugs and alcohol may have been a factor," says the release. "The investigation is still ongoing. No charges have been laid at this time."

RCMP Staff Sgt. Dave Elliott of the Bonnyville RCMP said Friday that he would neither confirm nor deny rumours that one of the vehicles was travelling at an excessive rate of speed. Elliot does not know how long the investigation will take.

Earlier that same morning, Two Hills RCMP had responded to a report of two

pickup trucks involved in a collision at an uncontrolled intersection in the County of Two Hills. Mitchell Toma, 65, was declared deceased on scene.

A deadly collision resulted in multiple fatalities near Cardston, Alta, on July 22. A father and three of his children were killed, along with another man, when a truck collided with the rear of a backhoe.

Other fatalities occurred across the province near Leduc, Banff, Cochrane, Hinton, Sylvan Lake, Forestburg, Panoka, Rocky Mountain House, Smoky Lake, Edson, Strathcona County, and Red Deer.

Five of the fatalities involved ATVs, and other off-highway vehicles. Alcohol and drugs were involved in 15 of the deaths.

"A lot of concern is being expressed by public over the continuing number of collisions involving alcohol or drugs as a possible contributing factors. Unfortunately stats show that drinking and driving related offences are not declining," says a province-wide RCMP release.

So far this year, there have been 3,504 drinking and driving related offences in Alberta. In 2007 there were 6,999 and in 2008 there were 7,261. These numbers do not include statistics from Alberta's municipal police services.

RCMP are encouraging the public to dial 911 to report suspected impaired drivers. Anyone witnessing other dangerous driving is also encourage to contact the local police detachment.



Winners of the B side were Balls Deep, who played their final game against Team Ram Rod. Participants report a great weekend with great competition.

WBFL schedule released

By Mike Pomerleau

Review Contributor

The Wheatland Bantam Football League has released its 2009 schedule, and it'll feature several big games this season. Twenty-one games will take place over a seven-week regular season, beginning Aug. 29 in Wainwright and Lloydminster.

The St. Paul Bengals' first home game won't take place until a week later, when they face Lac La Biche on Sept. 5. The Bengals will open the season on the road on Aug. 29 in Lloydminster against the

Chargers. Looking at the schedule this season, Bengals coach Randall Kryss says he likes what he sees.

"Yeah it's good, we open against the Chargers, and the Mustangs graduated lots of players last year so they'll be rebuilding, so I think right now, we have to watch out for the Chargers and Wainwright this year."

The Chargers are the defending Tier III bantam provincial champions, but Kryss welcomes this tough challenge and said in their game last year versus the Chargers, they only lost 18-16.

"First game will be a good test for us," he said. "They're probably the team to beat this year. They were good last year, and they were young so this year they'll be better," he said.

The Bengals will play home games on Sept. 5 against Lac La Biche, Sept. 26 versus Cold Lake, and Oct. 17 versus Bonnyville, so things look good on the home side of the schedule. Away from the home field, the Bengals will travel to Lloydminster to face the Chargers and the Mustangs, and to Wainwright to face the Commandos.

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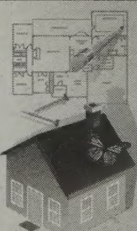


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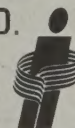
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Garden group tours local showplaces

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

A group of local gardening enthusiasts toured Elk Point and surrounding area last Wednesday, enjoying a close-up look at some of the community's gardens, including those of two Canada Day award winners, Patsy Zarowny and Donna Bassett.

They admired the thriving vegetables and flowers grown by Sandy Kummetz in a relatively new yard and were inspired by a unique heart-topped willow trellis, which, Kummetz says, is "my first and only try at

willow work."

The next stop on the tour was Patsy Zarowny's lush collection of all things blooming, from Maltese cross and bellflowers to a rosebush literally dripping with blooms and even one very early gladiolus. Then it was off to Denise Bjorkman's, where, a plaque declares, "There are fairies at the bottom of the garden," and they truly were, perched in a curvy bed of shade-loving flowers backed by a row of tower poplars, peeking around the greenery in another bed and sprawled beneath a spreading tree with book in hand.

Just down the street, a neighbour with a brand new yard has combined massive rocks and gravel surrounding shrubbery and a rock-rimmed corner bed to attractive advantage.

Barrels overflowing with petunias line the way to Peggy Smereka's back yard, where a vine-covered arch leads to a lower level, and a peony in full bloom is corralled in the base of an ornamental windmill, while an antique bathtub brims with nasturtiums in the shade of two handsome oak trees.

The last in-town stop was Donna Bassett's, where the shade-drenched front yard rock garden barely gives a hint of the beauty in the backyard, which features curving beds, an archway and a fishpond backed by another rock garden.

The touring gardeners later visited rural gardens created by Lyn Young, Melanie McRae and Verona Lea Flanders, and agreed that there are still many more attractive yards to see. With this in mind, they're planning another garden tour in early August.



Flowers, trees, shrubs, vegetables and personal touches add up to beauty in Elk Point yards

Vicki Brooker photos

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Agricultural Society

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2009

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from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

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August 9 at 4:00 pm



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- Regular Livestock Sale Tues., August 11 - 10:30 am
- Horse Sale - Thursday, September 17 - 6:00 pm
- Acreage Sale for Mike & Josephine Warholik of St. Paul - Sunday, August 9 - 11:00 am
- Farm Auction for Lorraine Ouellette & Michael Williams of St. Lina - Saturday, August 15 - 10:30 am
- Farm Auction for Joe & Lisa King of Ashmont - Saturday, August 29 - 10:30 am

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